

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 4, 2003

The Honorable George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush:

We are writing today to bring your attention to a May 21, editorial in the *New Haven Register* regarding the replacement of the current Marine One helicopter fleet. We believe this editorial raises an excellent point – the new Marine One fleet should be made in Connecticut.

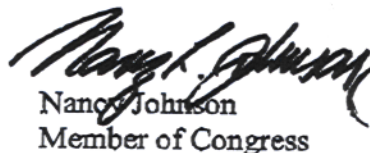
Recent news reports have indicated that the Department of Defense may be considering purchasing European-made helicopters to replace this important fleet. It is our sincere desire to see Connecticut-based Sikorsky as the provider of the next Marine One fleet.

The men and women of Sikorsky have been crafting helicopters in Connecticut since 1929. The Bolshevik Revolution drove Sikorsky's founder, Igor Sikorsky, from Russia in 1918. Mr. Sikorsky booked passage to America and arrived in New York in 1919. After a temporary engineering job ended with the U.S. Army Air Service in Dayton, Ohio, the Russian aviation giant taught mathematics to fellow emigres on New York's Lower East Side. He eventually bought land in Stratford, Connecticut, and began building the world's finest helicopters.

Igor Sikorsky's story is a classic American dream story. The hard working men and women of Sikorsky deserve the opportunity to continue their proud tradition and once again deliver the Marine One fleet to the President. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

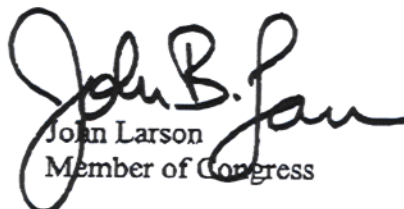
All the best,


Rob Simmons
Member of Congress


Nancy Johnson
Member of Congress


Chris Shays
Member of Congress


Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress


John Larson
Member of Congress